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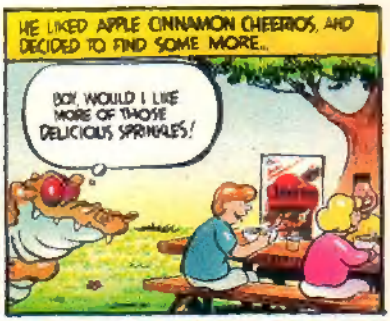
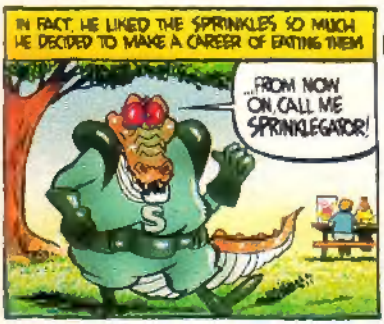
CHILL OUT!
THE BIG MELTDOWN!

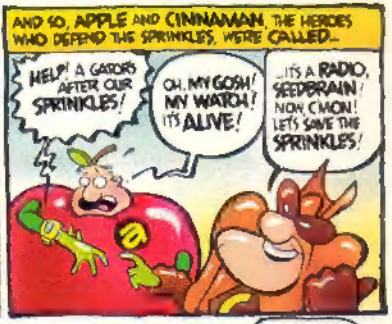
THE ADVENTURES OF APPLE AND CINNAMAN

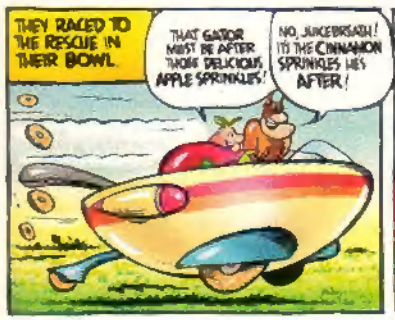
DEFENDERS OF THE SPRINKLES #3

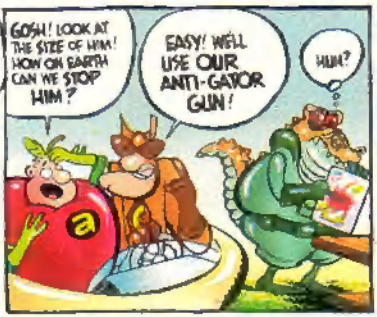
THE SWAMP ANIMALS DECIDED TO GIVE HIM APPLE CINNAMON CHEERIOS®
...YOU LOOK DELICIOUS!!!
...HERE, SIR... TRY THIS INSTEAD... IT'S GOT DELICIOUS APPLE AND CINNAMON SPRINKLES...
Cheerios

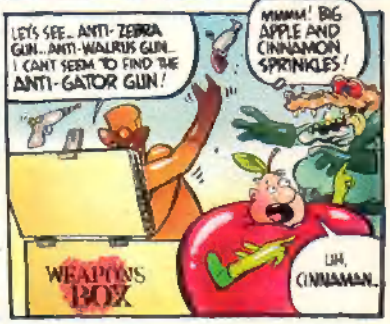


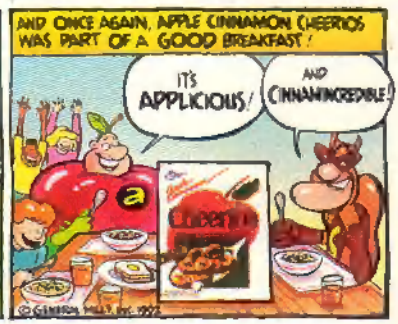



AND SO, APPLE AND CINNAMAN, THE HEROES WHO DEFEND THE SPRINKLES, WERE CALLED...
HELP! A GATOR'S AFTER OUR SPRINKLES!
OH, MY GOSH! MY WATCH! IT'S ALIVE!
...IT'S A RADIO, SEEDBRAIN! NOW C'MON! LET'S SAVE THE SPRINKLES!


THEY RACED TO THE RESCUE IN THEIR BOWL
THAT GATOR MUST BE AFTER THOSE DELICIOUS APPLE SPRINKLES!
NO, JUICEBRAIN! IT'S THE CINNAMON SPRINKLES HE'S AFTER!




LET'S SEE... ANTI-ZEBRA GUN... ANTI-WALRUS GUN... I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND THE ANTI-GATOR GUN!
MMMM! BIG APPLE AND CINNAMON SPRINKLES!
WEAPONS BOX
UH, CINNAMAN...


AND ONCE AGAIN, APPLE CINNAMON CHEERIOS WAS PART OF A GOOD BREAKFAST!
IT'S APPLICIOUS!
AND CINNAMAZING!
Cheerios
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OUR WORLD IS IN PERIL! **GAIA**, THE SPIRIT OF THE EARTH, CAN NO LONGER STAND THE TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION PLAGUING OUR PLANET. SHE SENDS FIVE MAGIC RINGS TO FIVE SPECIAL YOUNG PEOPLE: FROM AFRICA -- **KWAME**, WITH THE POWER OF **EARTH**! FROM NORTH AMERICA -- **WHEELER**, WITH THE POWER OF **FIRE**! FROM THE SOVIET UNION -- **LINKA**, WITH THE POWER OF **WIND**! FROM ASIA -- **GI**, WITH THE POWER OF **WATER**! AND FROM SOUTH AMERICA -- **MA-TI**, WITH THE POWER OF **HEART**! WHEN THE FIVE POWERS COMBINE THEY SUMMON EARTH'S GREATEST CHAMPION...

DARK WATERS

CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS

PART 2

THE STORM TOSSED WATERS OF THE ARABIAN SEA, AND FOR THE PLANETEERS A FAIRLY ROUTINE SEARCH FOR ILLEGAL TOXIC WASTE DUMPS...
... HAS TURNED DECIDEDLY DEADLY!
WHAT-- WHAT IS IT?!

SIMON FURMAN	ANDREW WILDMAN	STEPHEN BASKERVILLE	COSTANZA	MOSSOFF	TOKAR	DeFALCO
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	LETTERER	COLORIST	EDITOR	BIG SLICK

CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS™, Vol. 1, No. 10, August, 1992. (ISSN #1060-8745) Published by MARVEL COMICS; Terry Stewart, President; Stan Lee, Publisher; Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1992 TBS Productions, Inc. and DIC Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. All other material copyright © 1992 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price per copy is $1.25 in the U.S. and $1.50 in Canada. Subscription rates for 12 issues: U.S. $15.00. Canadian subscribers must add $6.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. All other foreign countries must add $12.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of TBS PRODUCTIONS, INC. and DIC Enterprises, Inc. Printed in The U.S.A. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FL., 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

MA-TI, IT CAN'T REALLY BE--
IT CAN, LINKA--THAT IS INDEED SLY SLUDGE, BUT CHANGED! ALMOST BEYOND RECOGNITION!
SOMEHOW THE POLLUTER HAS BECOME POLLUTION!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? HIS ESCAPE CRAFT WAS TORN APART, SLUDGE DUMPED UNCEREMONIOUSLY INTO WATERS HE HIMSELF SLICKED WITH OIL!
BUT NONE OF THAT EXPLAINS THIS!
LOOK! THERE'S YOUR EXPLANATION, ROOSKIE-TOOTSKIE!
THAT'S THE BUOY WE RELEASED TO MARK THE TOXIC WASTE DUMP! AND THAT'S ABOUT WHERE SLUDGE NOSE-DIVED INTO THE WATER!
SOMEHOW SLUDGE, THE TOXIC WASTE AND THE SPILLED OIL CREATED--
--THAT!
FINE EXPLANATION, WHEELER. BUT MORE TO THE POINT--
--WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
ESPECIALLY AS RIGHT NOW, OUR COMBINED POWERS...

"...ARE EMBODIED IN CAPTAIN PLANET!"
:NNH: MANAGED TO STOP THE FLOW OF OIL THAT MONEY-GRABBING SLUDGE UNLEASHED TO COVER HIS ESCAPE, BUT I STILL NEED TO GET HIS TANKER TO CALMER WATERS--
--BEFORE THE :NNH: FORCE OF THIS STORM BREAKS IT IN TWO--
--SPILLING THE THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF BLACK MARKET OIL HE CRAMMED INTO IT!
THE PLANETEERS ARE IN TERRIBLE DANGER! YOU MUST GO TO THEM, NOW! WITHOUT THEIR POWERS THEY ARE ALL BUT DEFENSELESS!
HUH? GAIA!
I--
I CAN'T! NOT WHILE SO MUCH MARINE LIFE IS STILL IMPERILED! I :NNNH: HAVE TO GET THE TANKER TO SAFETY!
IF THEY CAN JUST HOLD OUT FOR A FEW MOMENTS LONGER...

LIA
I THINK...
...THAT MEANT LUNCH!
GI -- DO SOMETHING!
BUT... WE'RE OUT OF THE WATER! PROPULSION UNITS WON'T WORK! AND WE CARRY NO WEAPONS!
WRONG!
EAT DETERGENT, SLIMEBALL!
WWRRAAAA!
FOOSH!

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT THEY COULDN'T GET ANY BIGGER OR BETTER.

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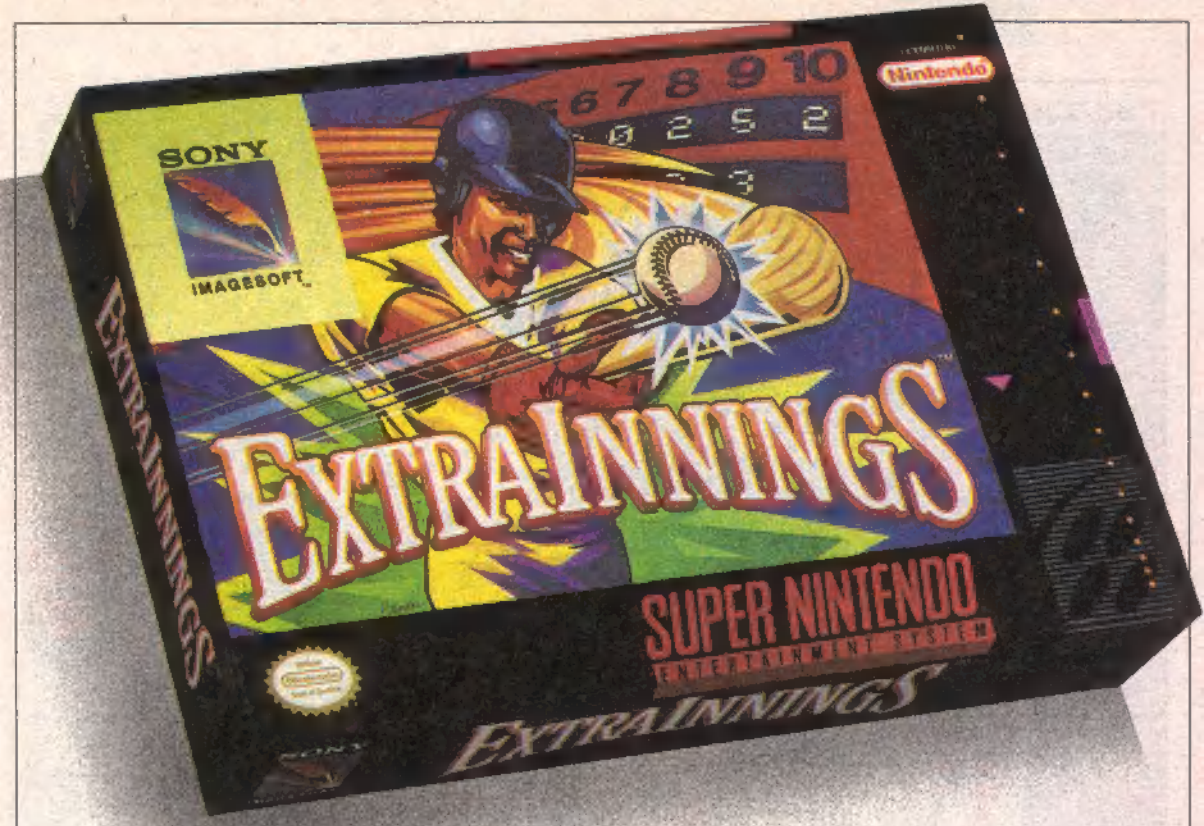
BRILLIANT!
ANY MORE BRIGHT IDEAS?
ER...
RELAX, PLANETEERS--
I HAVE YOU!
HEH.
ALL PART OF THE PLAN!
SLUDGE--A VICTIM OF HIS OWN INSATIABLE GREED! THE TOXIC WASTE HE DUMPED HERE, REACTING WITH THE OIL HE HAD NO RIGHT TRANSPORTING IN THE FIRST PLACE!
WERE IT NOT SO TRAGIC, IT WOULD ALMOST BE POETIC JUSTICE!



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When you play Extra Innings, you can put on a hit and run, take a long lead off first, or nail a base runner at the plate on a sacrifice fly. Play like the pros as you fight for a 12-team league pennant. And remember, statistics are updated and available on every player. You even select the stadium — air dome, midsize, or high-walled. Every choice changes the game.

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Pop fly to left field

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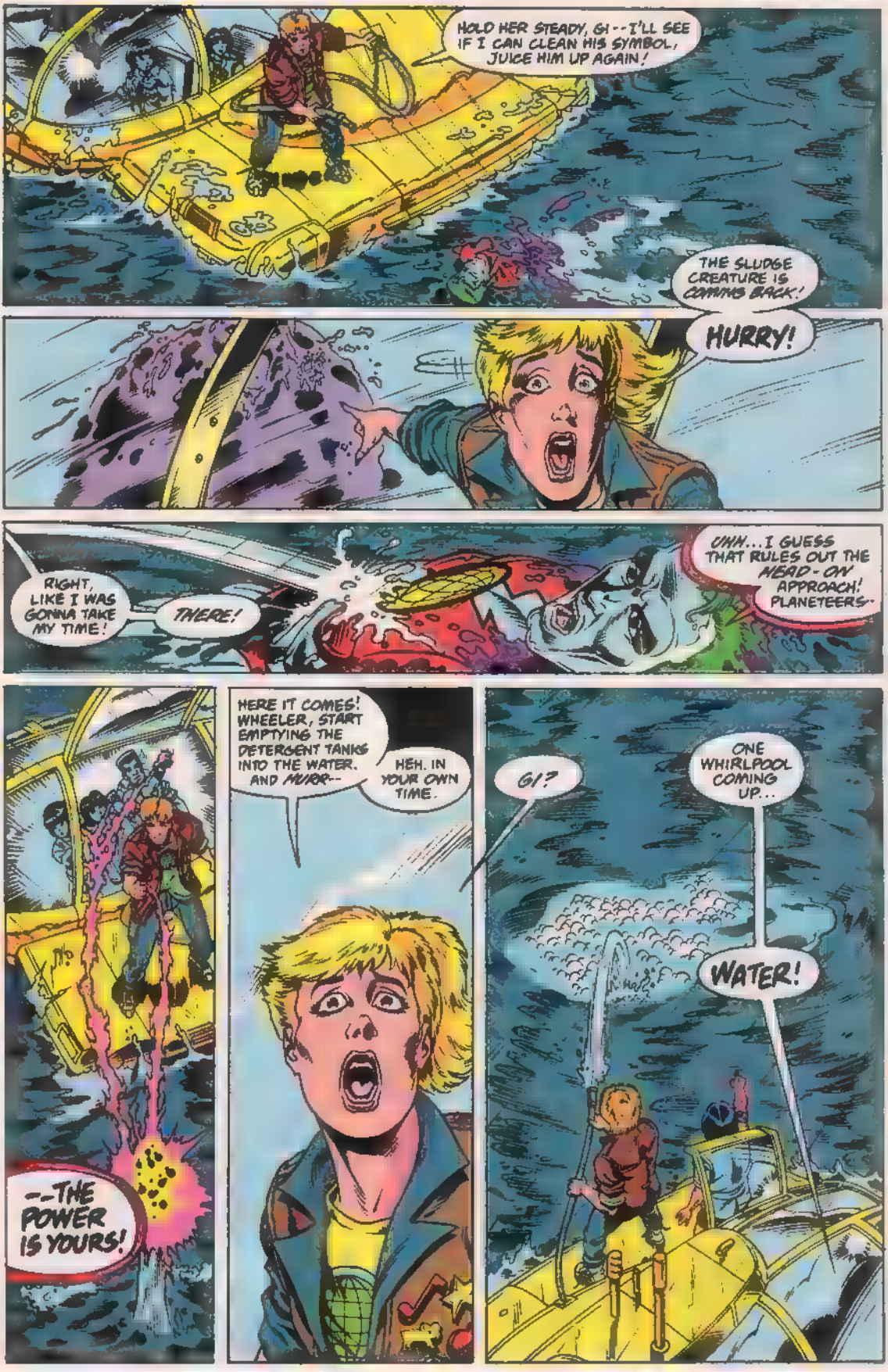
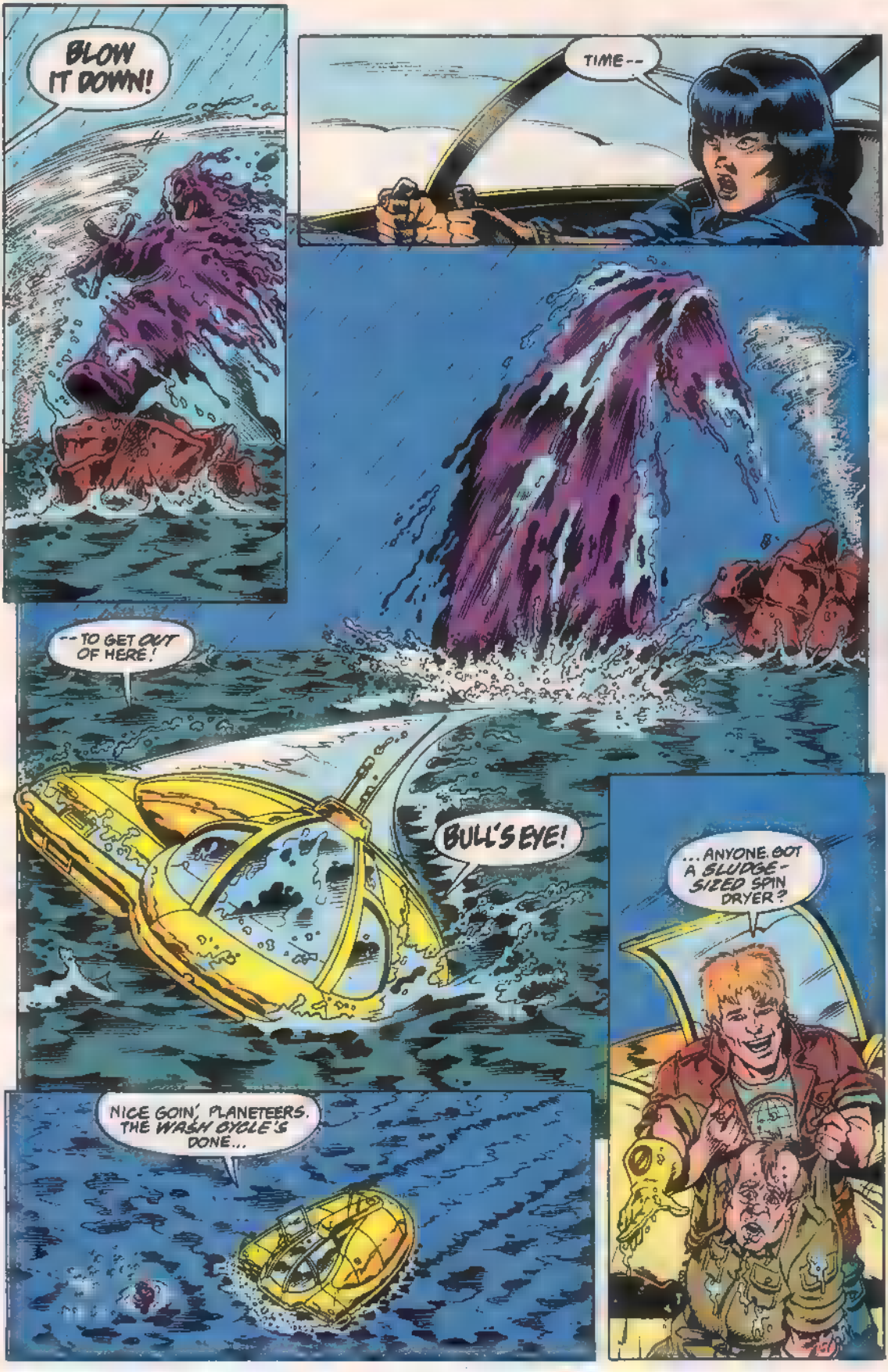
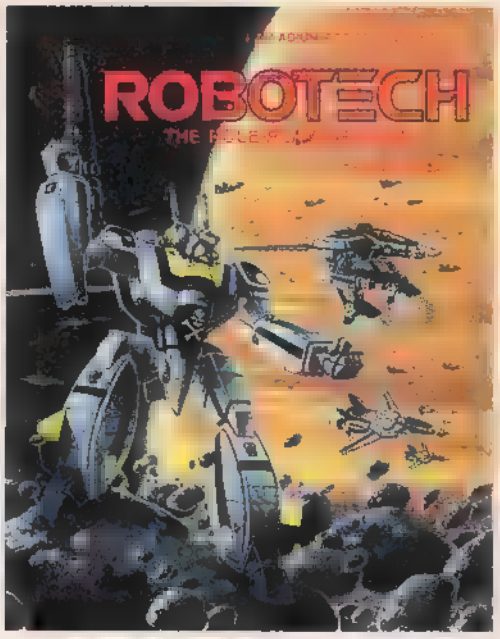
"GO PLANET!"
WAIT! WE MUST TEMPER OUR FEELINGS WITH MERCY, COMPASSION! AT THE HEART OF THAT CREATURE IS A LOST, FRIGHTENED MAN!
WHATEVER HE HAS DONE, WE HAVE TO HELP HIM!
AGREED! BUT FIRST THE CREATURE HAS TO BE SUBDUED!
I'LL JUST--
:UK:
OIL... CLINGING... POWER... FADING... I--
HE IS FALLING!
THE TOXIC MATERIALS IN THE OIL MUST BE SCREENING HIM FROM THE SUN'S ENERGY!
LET'S MOVE, PLANETEERS!


HOLD HER STEADY, GI -- I'LL SEE IF I CAN CLEAN HIS SYMBOL, JUICE HIM UP AGAIN!
THE SLUDGE CREATURE IS COMING BACK!
HURRY!
RIGHT, LIKE I WAS GONNA TAKE MY TIME!
THERE!
UHH... I GUESS THAT RULES OUT THE HEAD-ON APPROACH! PLANETEERS.
--THE POWER IS YOURS!
HERE IT COMES! WHEELER, START EMPTYING THE DETERGENT TANKS INTO THE WATER. AND MIRR--
HEH. IN YOUR OWN TIME.
GI?
ONE WHIRLPOOL COMING UP...
WATER!

I SEE YOUR PLAN, LINKA. I MUST TRY AND REACH OUT TO THE CREATURE, CALM ITS RAGING SOUL.
THOUGH TWISTED BY GREED, SLUDGE STILL HAS A HEART I CAN REACH!
NHH! BUT IF HE WANTS OUR HELP... FIRST HE HAS TO HELP US!
IT IS WORKING! LOOK!
AWR?
HUUR!
YOU'RE RIGHT. READY, KWAME?
READY!
EARTH!
WIND!
NOW, LINKA -- WHILE IT'S OFF-BALANCE!


BLOW IT DOWN!
TIME--
--TO GET OUT OF HERE!
BULL'S EYE!
...ANYONE GOT A SLUDGE-SIZED SPIN DRYER?
NICE GOIN', PLANETEERS. THE WASH CYCLE'S DONE...

SOON...
PERHAPS IT IS TOO MUCH TO HOPE THAT SLUDGE HAS LEARNED HIS LESSON, BUT HOPEFULLY OTHERS WILL FIND HIS ORDEAL A SOBERING EXPERIENCE AND DUMP THEIR WASTE SAFELY, AS WELL AS OBSERVING THE PROPER PRE-CAUTIONS WHEN TRANSPORTING OIL!
PERHAPS ALSO, SOME MAY LEARN THAT THERE ARE VALUES HIGHER THAN DOLLARS AND CENTS...
...OR EVEN RUBLES!
AH, YES! ABOUT THAT RENT...
HEY! I WAS JUST KIDDING! DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D CHARGE YOU FOR USING MY BIKE?!
MY PERSONAL STEREO, YEAH. MY COMIC COLLECTION, DEFINITELY. AND MY YANKEES CAP. AWW MAN -- YOU'D HAVE TO PAY THROUGH THE NOSE FOR...
:SIGH:
THE END



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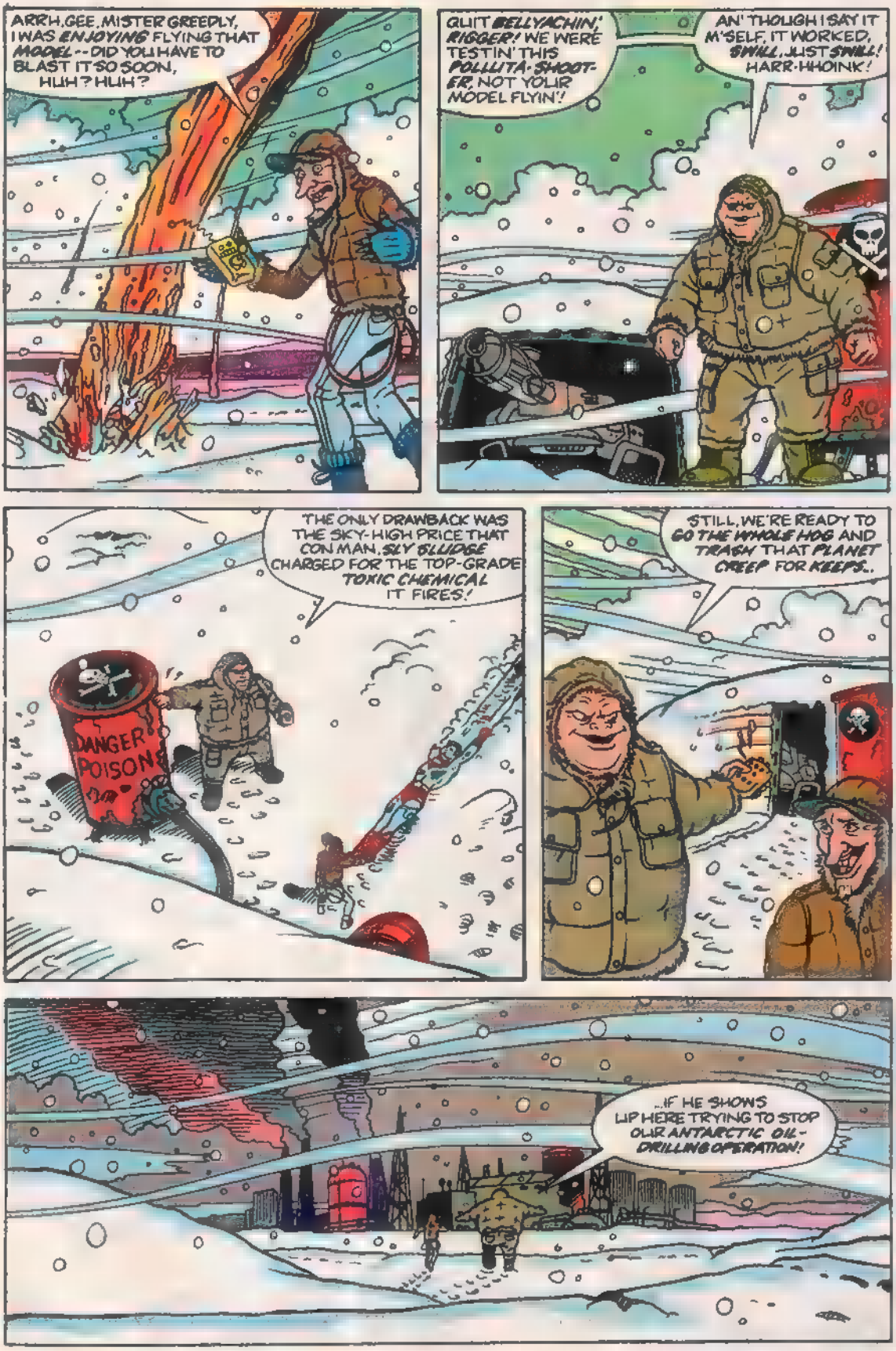
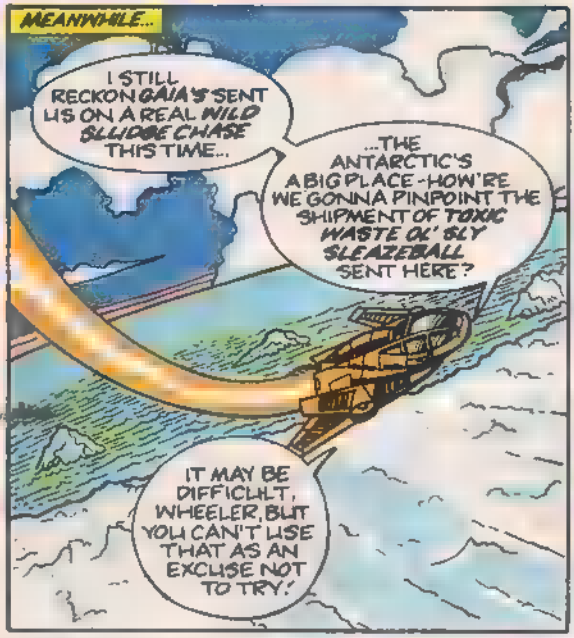
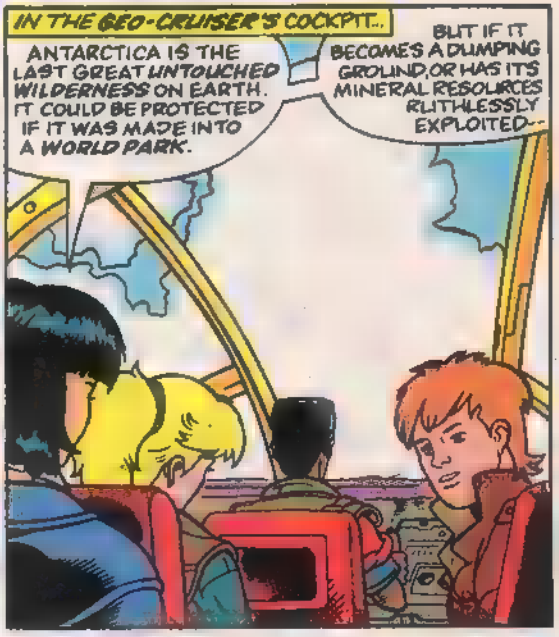
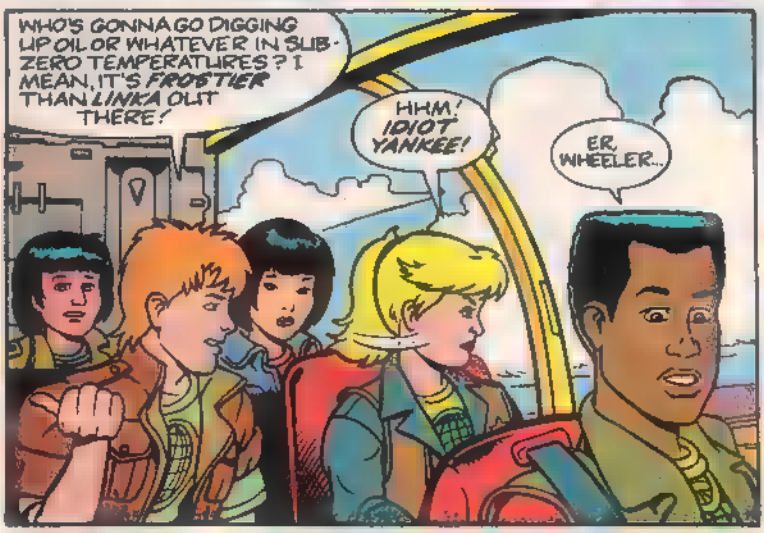
THE BIG MELT DOWN
PART ONE
"CAPTAIN PLANET...
...AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUPER HERO, CHARGED WITH THE POWERS OF NATURE ITSELF."
"SUMMONED FORTH FROM THE EARTH'S CORE BY THE PLANETEERS, TO AID THEM IN THEIR BATTLE AGAINST ECOLOGICAL DISASTER."
"I HATE HIM!"
I HATE HIM - AN I'LL DESTROY HIM, OR M'NAME AIN'T HOGGISH GREEDLY. snort. snort!"
YOU'RE GONNA FRY, PLANET! YOU'RE GONNA SIZZLE LIKE BACON IN A PAN...
FIRE!
YOU'RE WASTED, PLANET! HARR-HHOINK! HARR-HHOINK!

IAN RIMMER story
DAVID TAYLOR and COLIN FAWCETT art
CIE lettering
HELEN NALLY coloring
STONE / TOKAR editors
TOM DeFALCO chief

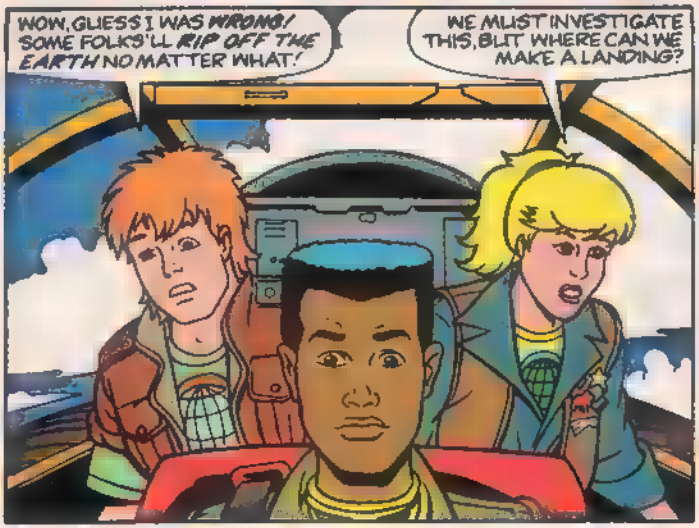

ARRH, GEE, MISTER GREEDLY, I WAS ENJOYING FLYING THAT MODEL -- DID YOU HAVE TO BLAST IT SO SOON, HUH? HUH?
QUIT BELLYACHIN', RIGGER! WE WERE TESTIN' THIS POLLUTA-SHOOTER, NOT YOUR MODEL FLYIN'!
AN' THOUGH I SAY IT M'SELF, IT WORKED, SWELL, JUST SWELL! HARR-HHOINK!
THE ONLY DRAWBACK WAS THE SKY-HIGH PRICE THAT CON MAN, SLY SLUDGE CHARGED FOR THE TOP-GRADE TOXIC CHEMICAL IT FIRES!
DANGER POISON
STILL, WE'RE READY TO GO THE WHOLE HOG AND TRASH THAT PLANET CREEP FOR KEEPS..
..IF HE SHOWS UP HERE TRYING TO STOP OUR ANTARCTIC OIL-DRILLING OPERATION!


MEANWHILE...
I STILL RECKON GAIA'S SENT US ON A REAL WILD SLUDGE CHASE THIS TIME...
...THE ANTARCTIC'S A BIG PLACE - HOW'RE WE GONNA PINPOINT THE SHIPMENT OF TOXIC WASTE OL' SLY SLEAZEBALL SENT HERE?
IT MAY BE DIFFICULT, WHEELER, BUT YOU CAN'T USE THAT AS AN EXCUSE NOT TO TRY!


IN THE GEO-CRUISER'S COCKPIT...
ANTARCTICA IS THE LAST GREAT UNTOUCHED WILDERNESS ON EARTH. IT COULD BE PROTECTED IF IT WAS MADE INTO A WORLD PARK.
BUT IF IT BECOMES A DUMPING GROUND, OR HAS ITS MINERAL RESOURCES RUTHLESSLY EXPLOITED--


WHO'S GONNA GO DIGGING UP OIL OR WHATEVER IN SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES? I MEAN, IT'S FROSTIER THAN LINKA OUT THERE!
HMM! IDIOT YANKEE!
ER, WHEELER...

...IT SEEMS THAT NATURAL RESOURCES ATTRACT PEOPLE WHO WISH TO EXPLOIT THEM!

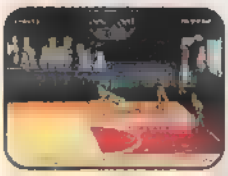

WOW, GUESS I WAS WRONG! SOME FOLKS'LL RIP OFF THE EARTH NO MATTER WHAT!
WE MUST INVESTIGATE THIS, BUT WHERE CAN WE MAKE A LANDING?

I'M ON THE CASE, GANG-- STAY COOL... WHICH WON'T BE HARD AFTER I'VE OPENED THE WINDOW!
FIRE!

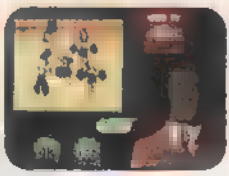
BASKET-BRAWL!

IT'S A SLAM DUNK!

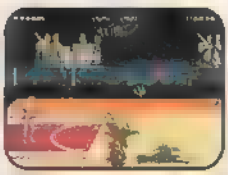
ARCADE ACTION AT HOME!



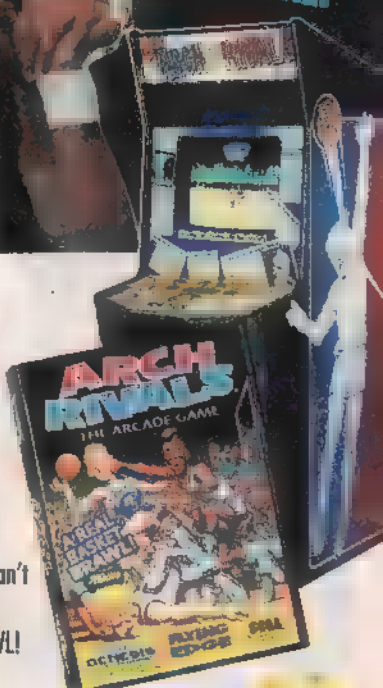
GET READY FOR AN ALL-OUT BASKET*BRAWL*.



DON'T MISS *THIS* HALF-TIME SHOW.



NO FOULS! KNOCK YOUR OPPONENT'S BLOCK OFF!



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SEGA GENESIS

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SEGA

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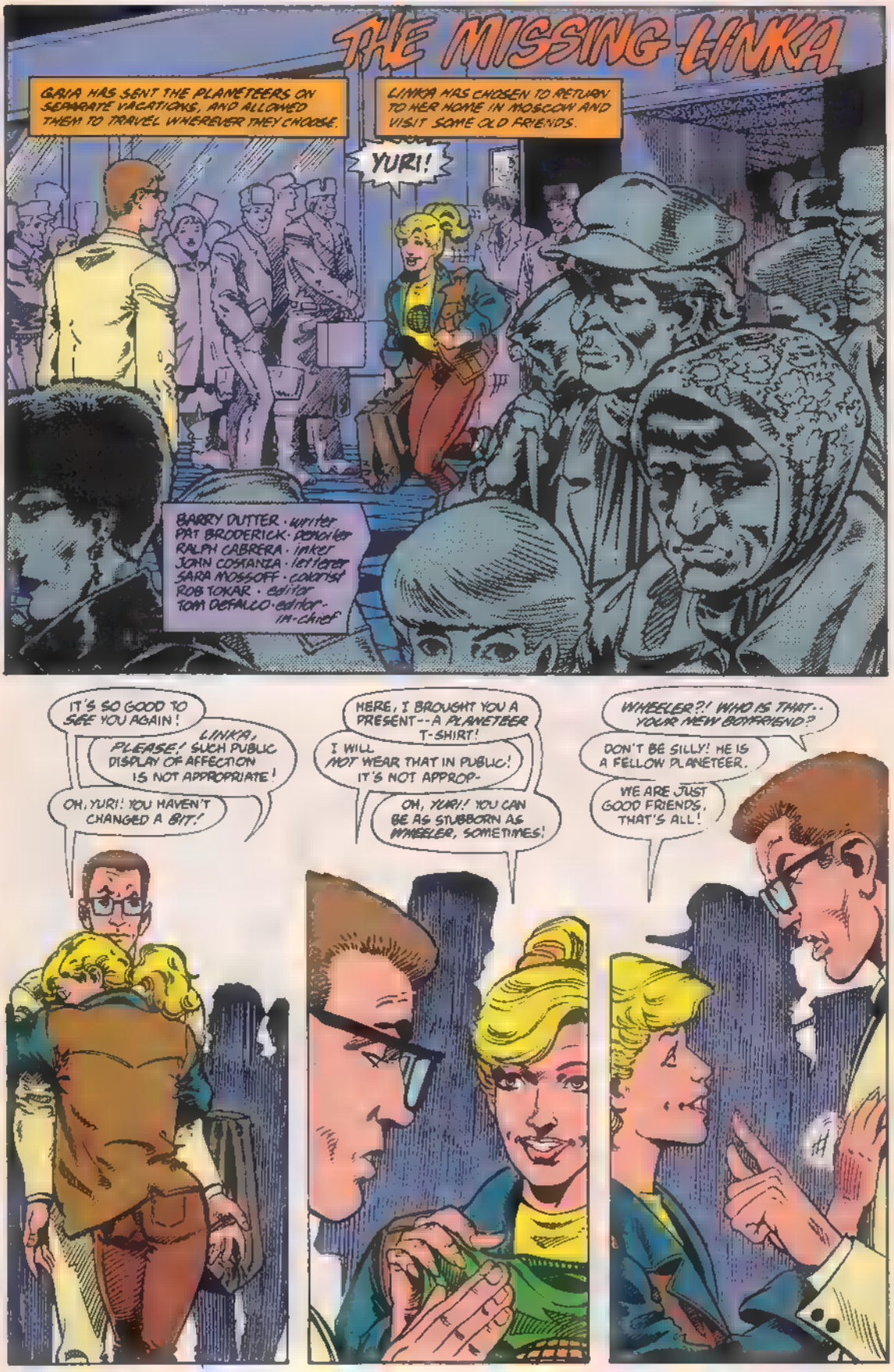
I'VE MELTED US A L-LITTLE LANDING ZONE...PUT US D-DOWN QUICK, A'MAME-IT'S C-C-COLD OUT HERE!
IT'S THOSE PESKY PUNKETEERS! YOU GOT A PLAN, BOSS, HUH? YOU GOT A PLAN?
DOES PORK GO WITH SAUCE? SURE I GOT A PLAN...WE RUN FOR IT!
WE-WE DO?
YEAH, RIGHT AFTER THIS...YOU MIGHT SAY WE'RE GONNA BLOW THE JOINT!
WHAT THE--PIPELINE EXPLOSION!
THEY'RE NOT ALONE, WHEELER-THIS COULD HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WHOLE WORLD!
WELL WHOEVER SET ALL THIS UP HAS GOT BIG PROBLEMS NOW!

BECAUSE OIL IS DARKER THAN ICE, IT ABSORBS MORE HEAT, AND SO THE ICE MELTS!
IMAGINE HOW DEVASTATING IT WOULD BE IF EVEN JUST PART OF THE ANTARCTIC MELTS..?
THE SEA LEVEL WOULD RISE CAUSING MASSIVE FLOODS!
THIS SPILL HAS GOT TO BE CHECKED- AND FAST!
THEN THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE - LET OUR POWERS COMBINE!
EARTH!
WATER!
WIND!
FIRE!
HEART!
BUT
YOU IN POSITION ON THE SECOND POLLUTA-SHOOTER, RIGGER?
SURE, BOSS! RIGGER'S TRIGGER'S READY!
GOOD. PLANET'LL BE PIGGY IN THE MIDDLE BETWEEN OUR FIRE. WHEN I GIVE THE WORD, WE ROAST HIM IN TOXIC WASTE!
THOSE PLANETEERS ARE CALLING THEIR HERO TO HIS DEATH! HARR HHOINK, HARR HHOINK!
HELP!

CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!


THE MISSING LINKA
GAIA HAS SENT THE PLANETEERS ON SEPARATE VACATIONS, AND ALLOWED THEM TO TRAVEL WHEREVER THEY CHOOSE.
LINKA HAS CHOSEN TO RETURN TO HER HOME IN MOSCOW AND VISIT SOME OLD FRIENDS.
YURI!
BARRY DUTTER · writer
PAT BRODERICK · penciler
RALPH CABRERA · inker
JOHN COSTANZA · letterer
SARA MOSSOFF · colorist
ROB TOKAR · editor
TOM DEFALCO · editor-in-chief
IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
LINKA, PLEASE! SUCH PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION IS NOT APPROPRIATE!
OH, YURI! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!
HERE, I BROUGHT YOU A PRESENT--A PLANETEER T-SHIRT!
I WILL NOT WEAR THAT IN PUBLIC! IT'S NOT APPROP-
OH, YURI! YOU CAN BE AS STUBBORN AS WHEELER, SOMETIMES!
WHEELER?! WHO IS THAT.. YOUR NEW BOYFRIEND?
DON'T BE SILLY! HE IS A FELLOW PLANETEER.
WE ARE JUST GOOD FRIENDS, THAT'S ALL!

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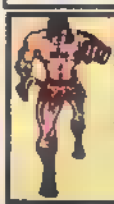

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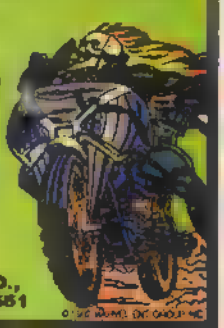

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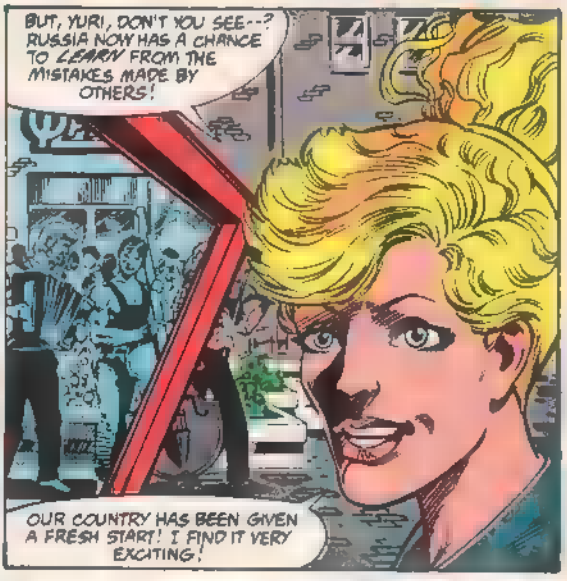
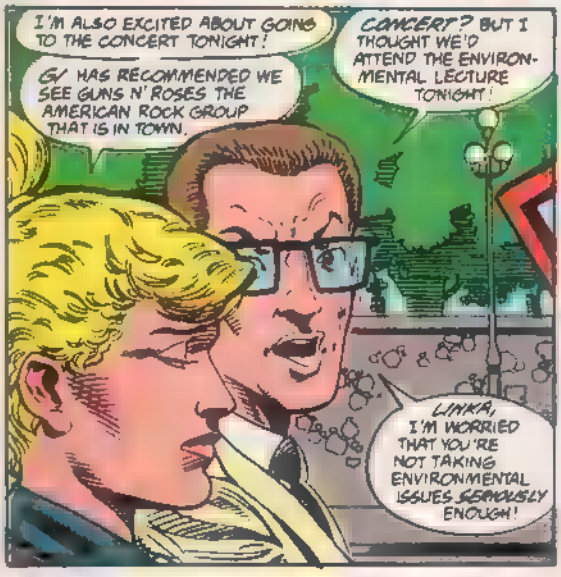
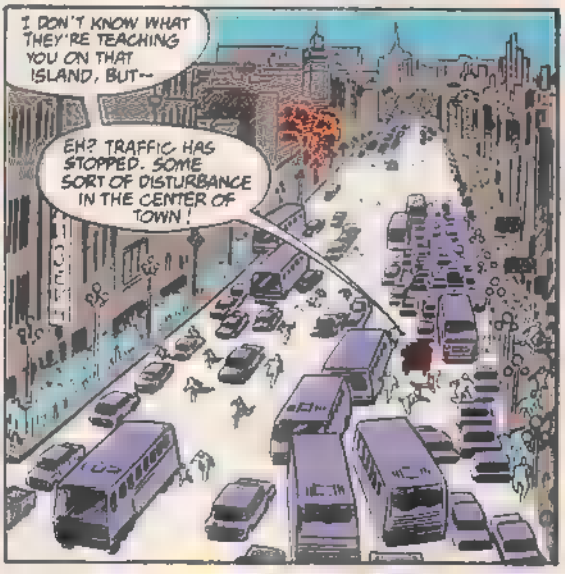
I'M AMAZED AT HOW MUCH MOSCOW HAS CHANGED OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.
YES, THE SWITCH FROM COMMUNISM TO DEMOCRACY HAS NOT BEEN AN EASY ONE.

I'M AFRAID THAT RUSSIA WILL MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE.
A CAPITALIST SOCIETY SEEMS TO ENCOURAGE WASTE, GREED AND EXCESS!


BUT, YURI, DON'T YOU SEE--? RUSSIA NOW HAS A CHANCE TO LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES MADE BY OTHERS!
OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN GIVEN A FRESH START! I FIND IT VERY EXCITING!


I'M ALSO EXCITED ABOUT GOING TO THE CONCERT TONIGHT!
G/ HAS RECOMMENDED WE SEE GUNS N' ROSES THE AMERICAN ROCK GROUP THAT IS IN TOWN.
CONCERT? BUT I THOUGHT WE'D ATTEND THE ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE TONIGHT!
LINKA, I'M WORRIED THAT YOU'RE NOT TAKING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES SERIOUSLY ENOUGH!


I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE TEACHING YOU ON THAT ISLAND, BUT--
EH? TRAFFIC HAS STOPPED. SOME SORT OF DISTURBANCE IN THE CENTER OF TOWN!

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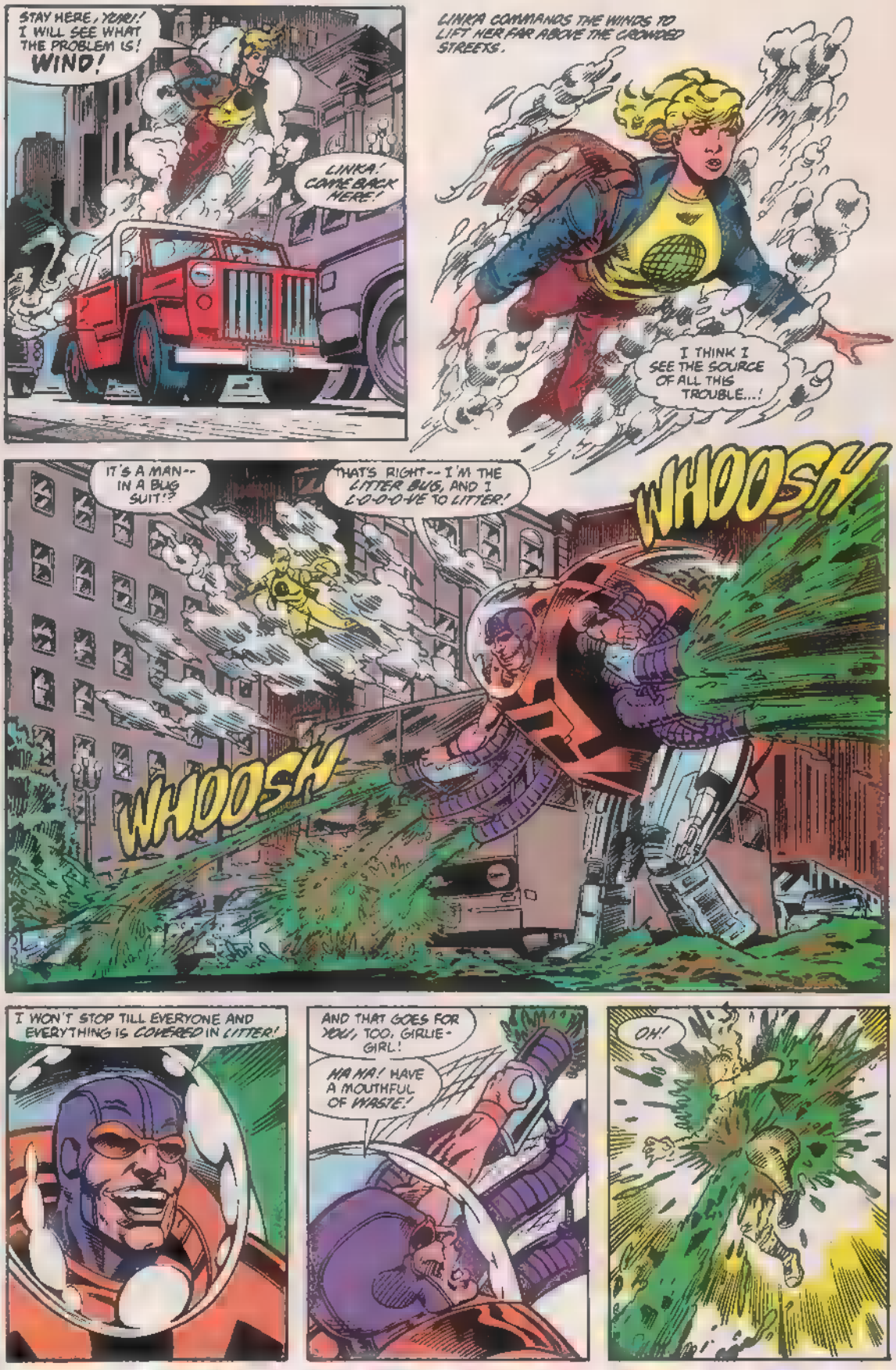

STAY HERE, YORI! I WILL SEE WHAT THE PROBLEM IS! WIND!
LINKA! COME BACK HERE!
LINKA COMMANDS THE WINDS TO LIFT HER FAR ABOVE THE CROWDED STREETS.
I THINK I SEE THE SOURCE OF ALL THIS TROUBLE...!
IT'S A MAN-- IN A BUG SUIT!?
THAT'S RIGHT-- I'M THE LITTER BUG, AND I L-O-O-O-VE TO LITTER!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
I WON'T STOP TILL EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING IS COVERED IN LITTER!
AND THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO, GIRLIE-GIRL!
HA HA! HAVE A MOUTHFUL OF WASTE!
OH!

WELL I NEVER!
THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM, HONEY!
I'VE GOT ENOUGH LITTER FOR EVERYONE!
I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! I AM GIVING YOU JUST ONE CHANCE TO SURRENDER!
OKAY, OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S WRONG TO LITTER! I SURRENDER!
NOT!
VA-VOOSH!
LENIN'S GHOST!
OH, THAT WAS GREAT! I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE FELL FOR THE OLD "FAKE SURRENDER" TRICK!
I GUESS THESE RUSSIAN BABES WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING!
WELL, GOTTA FLY! I'VE GOT LOTS MORE GROUND TO COVER!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

There I was, thirty-three thousand feet above the Earth, jetting back to Los Angeles after a recent trip to the Big Apple where I'd been visiting Marvel's peerless prez, Merry Terry Stewart, and his comic book commandos.

Thumbing through a newspaper as the plane zoomed along, I couldn't help but notice how depressing many of the items were. There was column after column of crime, violence, racism and despair. The more I read, the more my thoughts kept drifting back to the Marvel bullpen. Then, something occurred to me which I'd like to share with you.

In many ways the gang at Marvel is not unlike the United Nations. We have artists, writers, editors and production people, as well as a bright staff of managers who handle our countless business and legal matters. And, like the U.N., all of these dedicated, hard-working Marvelites, men and women alike, represent just about every color, race and creed.

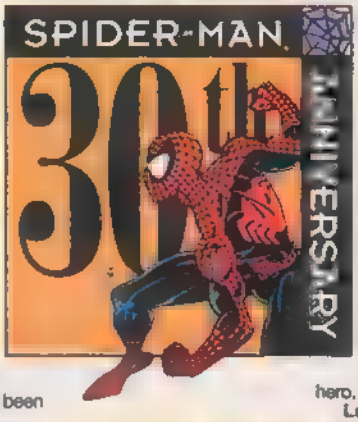
Now here's the point, which I can't seem to get out of my mind. If Marvel's little legion of diverse individuals can work together in harmony and friendship the way they do, respecting each other's rights, cooperating and helping one another as they work towards a common goal, then why can't the nations of the world do the same thing? Why can't the inhabitants of our cities and towns behave towards each other in the same way? Why can't people everywhere adopt a philosophy similar to that of our own Silver Surfer, a philosophy that says: We're all members of one great human family, sharing an all-too-brief sojourn on an enchanted planet; therefore, we should celebrate the gift of life by making every golden minute as joyful for each other as we possibly can.

It's a simple enough credo, and perhaps if more of us would adhere to it, the day will come when reading the news won't be such a grim and somber experience. And wouldn't it be nice to think that a comic book company helped to show the way?

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee



Where were you ■ June '62?

No, we're not advertising an old George Lucas movie — we're celebrating the 30th anniversary of the **Amazing Spider-Man!** We thought it would be a lark, a hoot, a kick, if you will, to approach the great Spider-Man *writers* and *artists* from over the years and ask them what they were doing back when Spidey was first hatched out of the fertile brains of **Stan Lee** and **Steve Ditko**. Here's what they had to say.

John Romita, penciler: I was over at DC doing romance books. I was unaware of Spider-Man and the Fantastic Four. I had no idea that a phenomenon was occurring.

Ross Andru, penciler: I can't remember that far back. It's all a blur. It's like looking out the window of a fast train. I do know that whatever I was doing then, I must have been happy.

Erik Larsen, writer-artist: I was waiting to be born.

John Romita, Jr., penciler: I was five years old. I remember beginning to doodle because I saw my father drawing. I remember playing a lot of stickball. I heard my first Beatles song, and I lost my dog Poochie.

Sal Buscema, artist: I was in New York, living in Queens, with my wife of about a little over a year. I was working for an advertising art studio by the name of Alexander Chaite Studios Inc.

Mark Bagley, penciler: I was five years old. I was an army brat. I picked up on comics when I was eight or nine years old. Gil Kane's SPIDER-MAN stuff always appealed to me — it was a major influence on me.

Ron Frenz, penciler: I was doing whatever two-year olds do. Probably already drawing.

Peter David, writer: I was in kindergarten. My parents wouldn't let me buy Marvel Comics because they said the characters were too ugly. I didn't read my first Marvels until several years later, when I was able to a) earn my own money, and b) hide my comic books.

Keith Pollard, penciler: I was twelve years old. I was a comic book fan. I was probably in middle school. I was heavily into Superman and Batman. One of my best friends introduced me to Spider-Man. I think the first one I saw was the fourth issue, with Doc Ock.

David Michelinie, writer: I was 14 years old. That was the summer I gave up comic books. I was going to be a freshman in high school, and I felt that was too old to reading comics. I gave away my collection of 500 comics, which today would probably pay the national debt.

Alex Saviuk, penciler: I was nine years old. I was an avid comic book reader at that time. I didn't hear about Spider-Man until the end of that summer. I went to the store to look for the latest *Superman* and *Batman* comics, but there were no new DCs that week. I had 25 or 30 extra cents, and a friend convinced me to buy FANTASTIC FOUR #18 and SPIDER-MAN #5.

J.M. DeMatteis, writer: I was eight and ■ half years old, living in an apartment in Brooklyn, either reading comics or running around in the street with my friends. I was a die-hard DC fan, so I was probably reading *Justice League* or *Green Lantern* at the time. I didn't discover Marvel until later. I was a slow learner!

Marv Wolfman, writer: I was in the High School of Art and Design in Manhattan. I was trying to become a cartoonist. I was a regular reader of AMAZING ADULT FANTASY. I read all the issues. When #15 came out, it was a shock. I was very disappointed because I liked the "O' Henry/Twilight Zone" type of stories that Stan and Steve were doing. I didn't want to see yet another super hero. But I read it, and I really liked it.

Len Wein, writer: I was a big comics fan. I was in junior high. I picked up any issue of AMAZING ADULT FANTASY. I picked up the first Spider-Man. I had a complete set of Silver Age Marvels. I almost did not buy FF #1. I used to stand in the store and stare at that logo — I thought ■ was a funny animal comic!

Jim Mooney, inker: I had a studio in Hollywood, California. I was working at DC, doing *Supergirl*, and any other comics they asked me to do. About a year later, somebody showed me Ditko's SPIDER-MAN, and I was jealous!

Danny Fingeroth, editor: I was a camper at Camp Winadu. I had the biggest comic book collection there!

Tom DeFalco, writer/editor: I was twelve years old, and already a died-in-the-wool Marvel fan. I bought AMAZING FANTASY #15 when it first came out. I had been ■ Marvel fan since FF #3. At that time, my greatest considerations were lunch, comics, and summer vacations.

Mike Esposito, inker: I remember I was definitely aware of Spider-Man when the character came out. Back in '62, my daughter was reading an issue of SPIDER-MAN, and I asked her what it was. I had never heard of it. I glanced at it, and I thought it was so different from anything we were doing over at DC. My daughter said she liked Spider-Man because he had problems with his girlfriend and school — she could identify with it. And I thought, "My God — (Stan) Lee's got a winner!"

Not to end this reminiscence session on a crassly commercial note, but you may want to know that this month marks the debut of a special 30th anniversary Spidey t-shirt, featuring great artwork from the past 3 decades. Also available this month ■ a new SPIDER-MAN trading card set, featuring some of Spidey's greatest moments over the past three decades. We don't know about you, but our Spider-Collector's Sense is tingling like five-alarm chili!

THE LAST COOLOMETER

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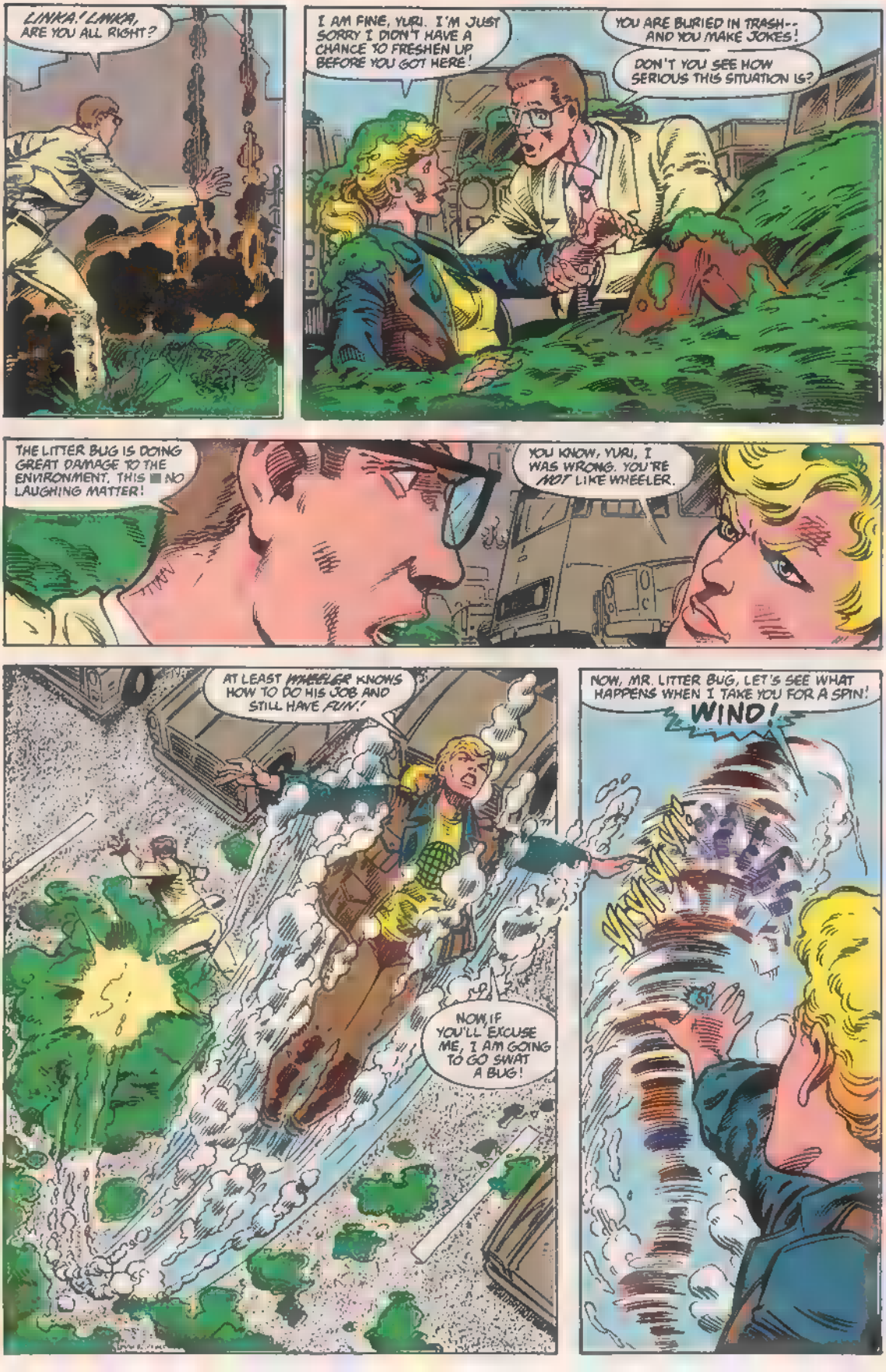
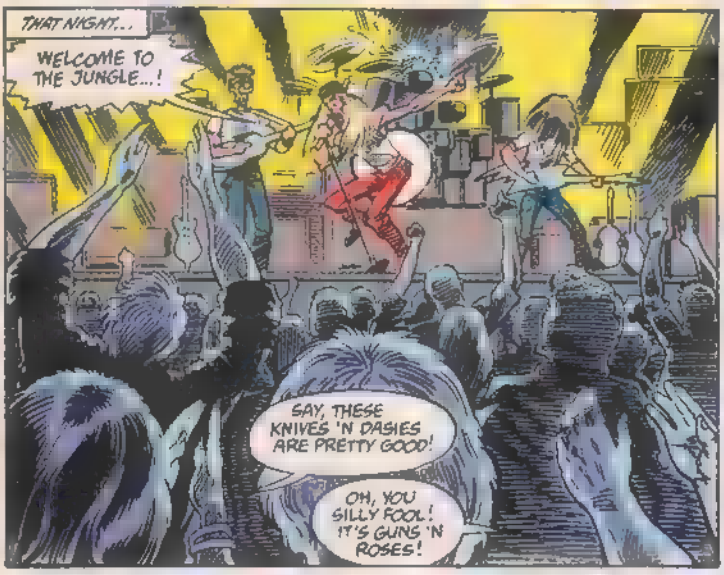
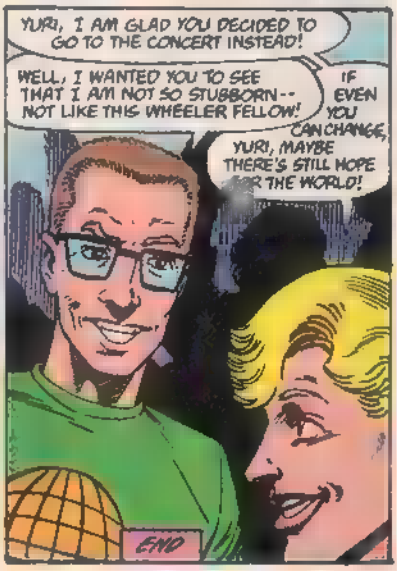

LINKA! LINKA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I AM FINE, YURI. I'M JUST SORRY I DION'T HAVE A CHANCE TO FRESHEN UP BEFORE YOU GOT HERE!
YOU ARE BURIED IN TRASH-- AND YOU MAKE JOKES!
DON'T YOU SEE HOW SERIOUS THIS SITUATION IS?
THE LITTER BUG IS DOING GREAT DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT. THIS ■ NO LAUGHING MATTER!
YOU KNOW, YURI, I WAS WRONG. YOU'RE NOT LIKE WHEELER.
AT LEAST WHEELER KNOWS HOW TO DO HIS JOB AND STILL HAVE FUN!
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I AM GOING TO GO SWAT A BUG!
NOW, MR. LITTER BUG, LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I TAKE YOU FOR A SPIN!
WIND!

YOU LOOK UNHAPPY, MY FRIEND. ONE MIGHT EVEN SAY YOU'RE DOWN IN THE DUMPS!
SCHLUMP!

NICE WORK, LINKA!
YOU SHOULD COME BACK TO VISIT THE MOTHER COUNTRY MORE OFTEN!
LOOK AT ALL THIS BEAUTIFUL GARBAGE!
CAN'T I JUST STAY IN HERE A LITTLE WHILE LONGER?

FROM NOW ON, HE'LL BE DOING ALL HIS LITTERING IN PRISON!
NOW I'LL HAVE TO GET MYSELF CLEANED UP FOR MY DATE WITH YURI TONIGHT!


THAT NIGHT...
WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE...!
SAY, THESE KNIVES 'N DAISIES ARE PRETTY GOOD!
OH, YOU SILLY FOOL! IT'S GUNS 'N ROSES!


YURI, I AM GLAD YOU DECIDED TO GO TO THE CONCERT INSTEAD!
WELL, I WANTED YOU TO SEE THAT I AM NOT SO STUBBORN -- NOT LIKE THIS WHEELER FELLOW!
IF EVEN YOU CAN CHANGE, YURI, MAYBE THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR THE WORLD!
END

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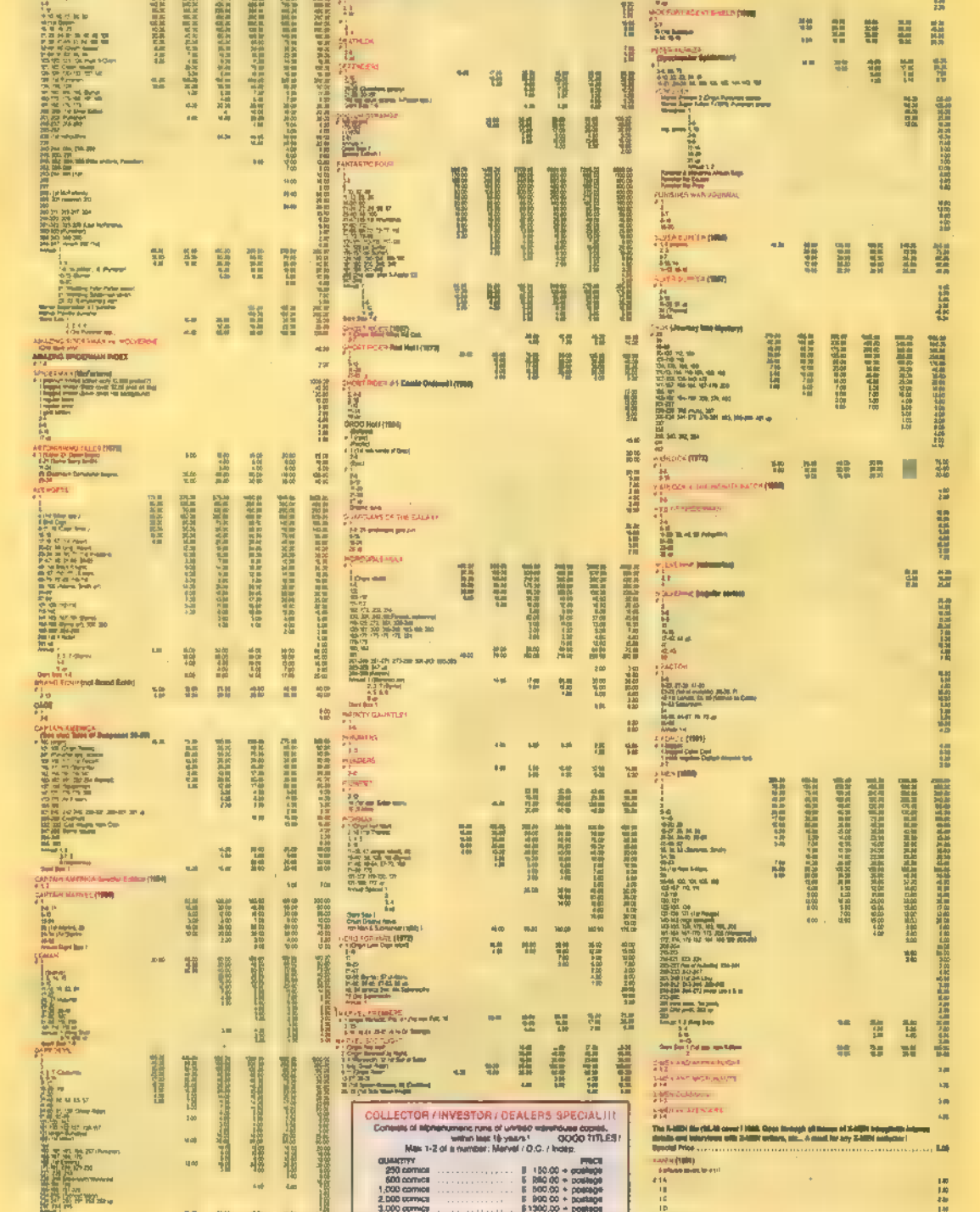

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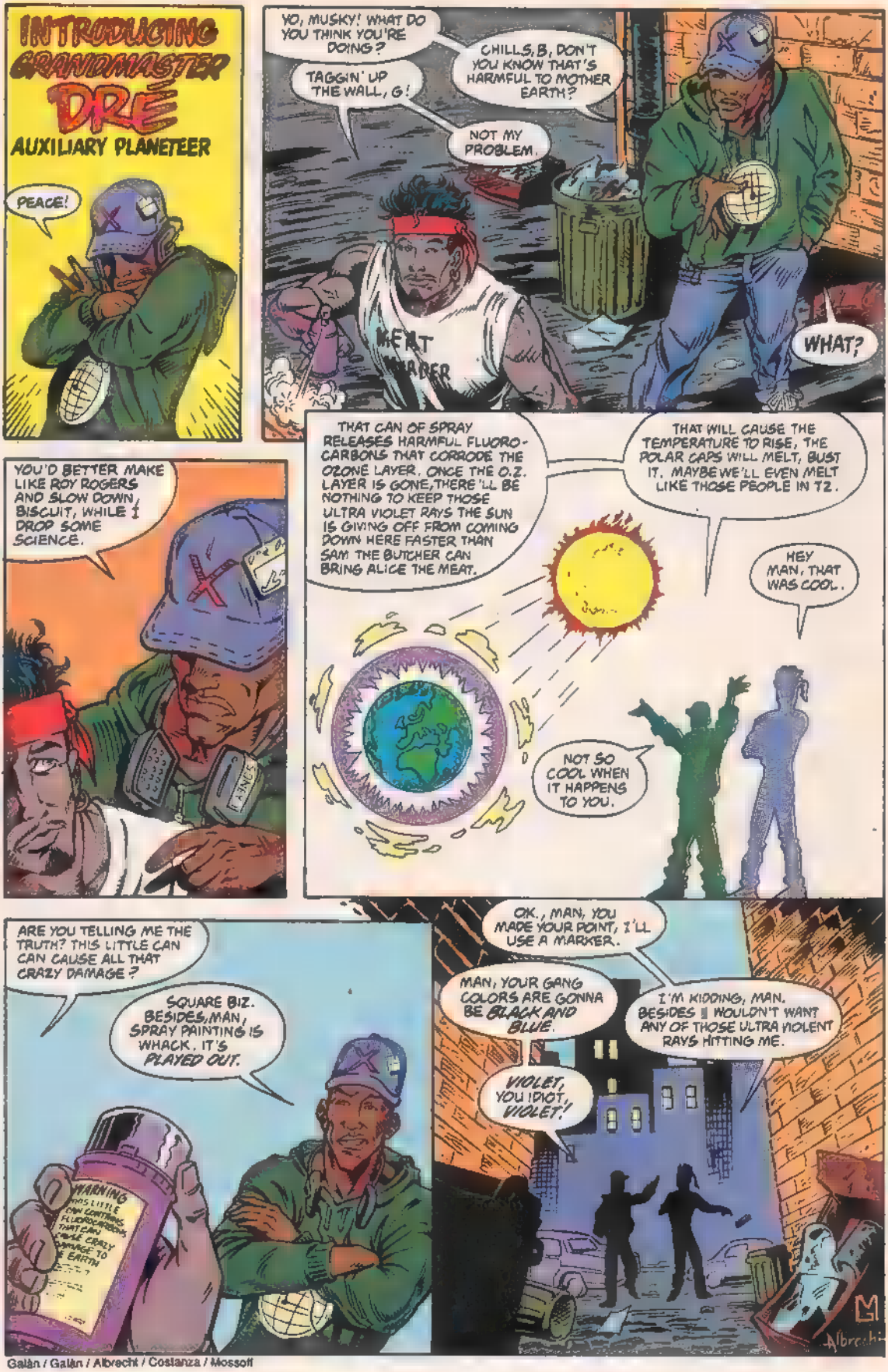
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PEACE!
YO, MUSKY! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
TAGGIN' UP THE WALL, G!
CHILLS, B, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT'S HARMFUL TO MOTHER EARTH?
NOT MY PROBLEM.
WHAT?
YOU'D BETTER MAKE LIKE ROY ROGERS AND SLOW DOWN, BISCUIT, WHILE I DROP SOME SCIENCE.
THAT CAN OF SPRAY RELEASES HARMFUL FLUOROCARBONS THAT CORRODE THE OZONE LAYER. ONCE THE O.Z. LAYER IS GONE, THERE'LL BE NOTHING TO KEEP THOSE ULTRA VIOLET RAYS THE SUN IS GIVING OFF FROM COMING DOWN HERE FASTER THAN SAM THE BUTCHER CAN BRING ALICE THE MEAT.
THAT WILL CAUSE THE TEMPERATURE TO RISE, THE POLAR CAPS WILL MELT, BUST IT. MAYBE WE'LL EVEN MELT LIKE THOSE PEOPLE IN T2.
HEY MAN, THAT WAS COOL.
NOT SO COOL WHEN IT HAPPENS TO YOU.
ARE YOU TELLING ME THE TRUTH? THIS LITTLE CAN CAN CAUSE ALL THAT CRAZY DAMAGE?
SQUARE BIZ. BESIDES, MAN, SPRAY PAINTING IS WHACK. IT'S PLAYED OUT.
WARNING
OK., MAN, YOU MADE YOUR POINT, I'LL USE A MARKER.
MAN, YOUR GANG COLORS ARE GONNA BE BLACK AND BLUE.
I'M KIDDING, MAN. BESIDES I WOULDN'T WANT ANY OF THOSE ULTRA VIOLENT RAYS HITTING ME.
VIOLET, YOU IDIOT, VIOLET!
Albrecht

Galàn / Galàn / Albrecht / Costanza / Mossoll

THE PAGE IS YOURS!

ROB TOKAR: Editor DAN CUDDY, JOE ANDREANI: Assistant Editors c/o Marvel Comics, 387 Park Ave. South, New YorkNY 10016.
All letters must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information by request!

Dear Marvel Comics,

I am the #1 fan of your comic books--especially CAPTAIN PLANET! I have the toy, the comic book, the board game and the video game. I was wondering if you could tell me if they are selling posters, stickers, or cards or stuff.If they are, could you give me samples for free, or tell me where I could buy this stuff, or send me a catalog?

Thank you and keep up the good work.

Steven Nasrawy
331 Henry St.
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Wow! You really are a big CAPTAIN PLANET fan, Steven! Sorry, we can't send out free merchandise to you. For one thing, Marvel just makes the comics, not the toys. And if we sent out the Captain Planet stuff we use for reference, we wouldn't have any left to play with ourselves!

There is plenty of Captain Planet merchandise out there, in addition to the items you listed above. We are not aware of a Captain Planet catalog, but any big toy store should have shelves full of Cap toys for you to enjoy.

Dear Marvel,

I'm writing to tell you how much I like CAPTAIN PLANET issue #5.

I love CAPTAIN PLANET AND THE PLANETEERS. It is the best comic in the world to me. My first comic was CAPTAIN PLANET #1. I have numbers 1 through 5, and I am getting 6 tomorrow.

Please make many CAPTAIN PLANET comics.

Michael Kelly
250 Ave. B.
Bayonne, NJ 07002

CAPTAIN PLANET is planned as a twelve-issue limited series, Mike. If you want to see more issues after that, you'll have to write in and tell us.

THE POWER IS YOURS!

Dear Planet People,

I'm a big fan of Captain Planet. He's my number one favorite super hero. So far, I've gotten issues #4-#7, but unfortunately, I missed out on issues #1, #2, and #3. Is there a way I can get them through Marvel? They're all out at my neighborhood stores. (not that I can blame them!).

I thought I might as well put my two cents in, so here goes. Personally, I liked the coloring and the drawing of the second half of issue #7 better than the first half. (No offense intended.) The characters looked more like they do in the TV series, of which I am an avid watcher. Why the change?

Also, I really liked the Planet Profiles. Good idea! Are you going to use them to give us a little more background on the villains, too?

One more thing--where did the name "Wheeler" come from? I am anxiously awaiting issue #8 (and #9, and #10, and #11...)

I'm a grade nine girl, and, well, we're not supposed to like comic books and super heroes, so please, no names!

Proudly Canadian
(Address withheld by request)

Ordinarily we don't print letters without a name on them, "Proudly," but in your case we'll make an exception, because of your comment. Marvel Comics are meant for readers of all ages, and both genders.

Marvel doesn't carry any back issues for sale, so if you're looking for missed copies of CAPTAIN PLANET, we recommend you try ordering from dealers who advertise in the pages of our comics. Happy hunting!

As for the source of Wheeler's name, umm...his parents?

Dear CAPTAIN PLANET staff,

I love your show. I have all the figures, except for a few Eco-Villains. I also have the Geo Cruiser, the Eco Sub, and the Eco-Mini-Sub. I also have the board game and the Nintendo game. I never miss your show on television. I like it because it is about saving the Earth. I live in nature, and I have seen what can happen by pollution and by logging.

I would like some information on the Nintendo game. Could you get the code for the outside of level 3?

Joshua A. Aikens
R.R.1 Box 248
Petersburg, IN 47567

Uh...sorry, Joshua, but you're asking the wrong guys! Can anyone out there help Josh out? You might want to send your answers straight to him since we we only have two issues left and we might not be able to get to print it in time. Good luck, Josh!

Dear Rob,

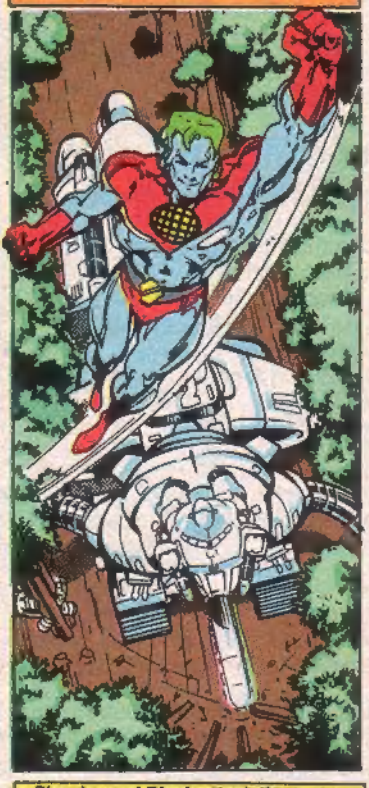
Do you think you could make the Eco-Villains have the evil rings and Captain Pollution in every issue? Then Captain Planet could have an arch-rival. Are Captains Planet and Pollution twin brothers?

Blake Morgan
Rt.2
Malen, MS 39742

The two Captains are not brothers, Blake. They are both formed by power rings, and the resemblance probably exists because the rings that created Pollution were evil duplicates of the rings that create Planet.

Finally, we can't have Captain Pollution every issue because frankly, the villains could never work together as a team that long. Of course, just on their own, the evil eco-villains still manage to keep Captain Planet and the Planeteers on their toes!

NEXT ISSUE:



Plunder and Bleak attack the test-run of the Cutter--a powerful new eco-friendly deforestation device! Can Cap and the Planeteers stop Plunder's evil scheme--or will our heroes get the axe? Plus the conclusion to Big Meltdown and action in Africa vs. the rampaging, radioactive Duke Nukem!

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